

**CITY COUNCIL
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
November 1, 2011**

The Business Meeting of the Monroe City Council was held on November 1, 2011, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Pro-Tem Goering called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Councilpersons present: Balk, Cudaback, Tuttle, Kamp, Williams, Stima, and Goering.

Staff present: Brazel, Feilberg, Quenzer, Willis, Harris, Farrell, Sax, Popelka, and Martinson.

Absent: Mayor Robert Zimmerman (ill)

City Attorney Zach Lell was also present.

Bruce Schroeder was present for the executive session regarding collective bargaining.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ORDER CHANGED PER Council consensus (formal vote?)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Pro-Tem Goering read the following Proclamations:

Proclamation announcing Local Veterans Tribute Day on November 11, 2011.

Proclamation announcing Senior Health Day on Saturday, November 5, 2011.

Proclamation announcing Sky Valley Food Bank Day on Saturday, November 5, 2011.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session: Collective Bargaining

Mayor Pro-Tem Goering explained that there was a need to go into Executive Session for purposes of discussion collective bargaining, pursuant to RCW42.30.140(4), as read into the record by City Attorney Lell. The executive session would last approximately 45 minutes. Due to the size of the audience, Council members, Mayor, and staff excused themselves and left Council Chambers.

MEETING RECESSED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:09 p.m.

MEETING RECONVENED INTO REGULAR SESSION: 7:55 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

First Public Hearing on 2012 Budget

Finance Director Nelson explained that the state RCWs requires that the City hold two public hearings on the budget. The information is available on line.

Mayor Pro-Tem Goering opened the public testimony portion of the public hearing.

Tami Dunn, 3403 NE 193rd Street, Lake Forest Park, addressed Council on behalf of the Parks Department. She works with the Parks Department for various sports events. She gets many comments from sporting event owners regarding the wonderful job the Parks department does on the fields. If the Parks Department is cut further, the sports teams will go elsewhere, because the fields will deteriorate. The Parks Department is a great liaison for sports owners and is pro-active in helping. People come into the city, eat at restaurants, buy gas, etc. She encourages Council to look at ways to keep the Parks Department without cuts. They bring in revenue that brings people into Monroe.

RV Palmer 7547 NE 200th Street, Kenmore, in favor of not cutting the Parks Department. Parks can be funded by the proposed cable park.

Greg Dick, from NW Riders, stated that the reason they come back for contests is the great job the Parks Department does. The Triathlon organizers feel the same.

Joel Phillips, not in favor of cutting the Parks Department, they do a great job.

Tate, 18023 124th St SE, Snohomish, stated that when people drive through town, they see the medians and parks. He asked Council to please reconsider cutting the Parks Department.

The motion was made by Councilperson Stima and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback, to close the public testimony portion of the public hearing. On vote,
Motion carried 7/0.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Wylie Poor, 127 Lincoln Ave, Snohomish, stated that the noise at a cable park is low and that there would be 100 people at the most on a busy day. He hopes Council will move forward with the proposal.

Kristal Shaver, 17313 100th Street SE, submitted a packet of materials to Council. She disagreed with H30's demographics and other claims and is against the cable park.

Jeff Rasmussen, 16655 150th Street SE, Monroe, feels that the current proposal has a lot of speculation, without facts to back it up. He is against the cable park.

Christopher Perry, 1611 Vernon Road, Lake Stevens, is for the cable park being built. It's a great opportunity for Monroe and for Snohomish County and good for local businesses.

Jay Quan 3308 112th Pl SE, Everett, stated that water sports are a fun activity and are most commonly done in groups and families. The cable park would be a positive benefit to community.

Michelle Frost, 125 N. Davies Rd. Lake Stevens, is in favor of the cable park. Most children don't have access to wakeboarding, due to the need for a boat. This is an opportunity for a sport that they have never tried.

Jane Smitchger, 312 N. Madison Street, is not in favor of the cable park. She wants to preserve the park the way it is.

Douglas Knight, 16574 Wales Street SE, Fryelands, stated he has a petition signed by 75 people against the cable park. Neighbors have to put up with noise and mess.

James Brownlow - no response when called.

Lowell Anderson, 129 Rivmont Drive E., Monroe, is opposed to the cable park and feels that cables would permanently disable the park. He is also concerned about questionable ideas, like the East Monroe property.

Aleda Enright, 14846 Jake Drive SE, Monroe, is against the cable park. She is concerned about the migratory birds, nesting birds, and the impact to the neighborhood.

Mike Enright, 14846 Jake Drive, supports what his wife said.

Chris Nourse, 16632 150th Street SE, Monroe, is concerned about the public park becoming commercial enterprise. He is also concerned that the noise might affect the dogs in the neighborhood.

Joe Borovina, 4006 Federal Ave, Everett, as a kite boarder, he knows others who would use the park, too, which would support the town. In a week, they got signatures of 300 supporters in the Puget Sound area.

Barbara Evans, 16819 159th Dr. SE, Snohomish, she and husband love to walk around Lake Tye, and couldn't walk around the lake without paying admission when the big events were there. It's not always about Monroe.

Caroline Zebroski, 14872 165th Ave SE, Monroe, bought her house two years ago because of the park and because it's a nice quiet place. She doesn't support a cable park.

Rick Stocks, Black Diamond, is in favor of the park. This is a multi-billion dollar industry that develops athletes. Whether it happens in Monroe or elsewhere, it will happen.

John Geisler, didn't respond when name was called.

Aaron Edmonds, 16607 Ladd Street SE, Monroe, has concerns about the wakeboard park. He likes events; but, they pick up and leave, and they are at peace. He wants this to be put to a vote of the citizens.

Darlene Webber, 14824 165th Avenue SE, Monroe, has been a homeowner there for 11 years and enjoys the lake and walks it six days per week, 12 months per year. She is opposed to the park and wants Council to consider the ramifications and impact.

Carrie Glendron, 12333 251st Avenue SE, Monroe, supports the cable park. While there are aspects that warrant review, she encouraged City Council to move ahead and adamantly believes that it would be a mistake to not move forward.

Travis Stewart, 23707 SW Lake Roesiger Road, Snohomish, has seen a cable park in action. It's a great opportunity that would bring in people and revenue. The beautiful sunsets at Lake Tye wouldn't change.

Barry Adams, no response when called.

John Galfano, 15924 179th Ave SE, is a homeowner and local business owner, and is for the cable park. He doesn't feel that it would impact the swimming area or walking. The towers aren't as ugly as the empty building in the industrial area.

Austin Aitken, 3932 121st Drive NE, Lake Stevens, is for the cable park. This park would allow him, friends, and family to get on the water and experience the sport and come into the area.

Melissa Chudnofsky, 17930 117th St. SE, Snohomish, frequents Lake Tye, and is for the cable park. This is more affordable than owning a boat and feels it would be good for kids. People from Oregon, Nevada and other places will plan vacations to come to the park.

Chad Douglas, 23124 76th Ave W., Edmonds, is in favor of the cable park. Many of the wonderful opportunities are public-private enterprises; such as ski resorts. A cable park would bring them, family and friends. He would like Council to move forward.

Dan Williams, 14920 165th Avenue SE, is against the proposal. Put it on the ballot; it doesn't affect the people who don't live here. He won't forget it at election time.

Greg Young, 3859 NE 178th Street, Lake Forrest Park, is in favor of the cable park. They are a great place for kids to spend time and have a great time. It will change the park, but will bring in revenue

Tim Bailey, Monroe, can hear the noise in his backyard during events. He feels that it should go to a public vote to find out how citizens want the park to be used. The signs that were talked about to give information aren't in the park.

Justin Crouch, Snohomish, stated that he and his wife are for the cable park for the future youths to keep them out of trouble. He asked Council to worry about the kids, not the birds.

Henry Parker, 18709 137th St. SE, Monroe, is in favor of the park. This would be great for the kids and provide income for Monroe. Kayakers and fishermen could still use the lake.

Corey McKenna, 12490 Shore Street, Leavenworth, is passionate for the sport. He is here to show support for H30 and the cable park. People are hesitant for the unknown; but, tourism is good for the town. It would bring him here.

Jenny Knight Green, Snohomish, grew up in Monroe, and is in support of the cable park. People don't like change; but, if you don't grow you die. She used to ride her horse where the lake is now.

Spencer Norris, 21316 4th Ave S., Des Moines, supports the cable park. There have been TV viewers of the wakeboard tours, which would be an immense amount of exposure. People come from all over the world to go to wakeboard parks.

Adam Knight, 801 79th Dr. NE, Lake Stevens, grew up in Monroe. He has been a wakeboard fan for years. There won't be parking and noise issues. If the cable park came in, he would come five days a week with friends and family.

April Foray, 16790 Wales Street SE, Monroe, feels that there are still too many questions that haven't been answered. She feels that the citizens should vote on this.

The motion was made by Councilperson Balk and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback, to extend the meeting past 10:00 p.m. On vote,

Motion carried 7/0.

Jack Smitchger, Monroe, doesn't like the private/public partnership. He doesn't feel that the numbers are going to support the whole thing. City needs to have a sound budget and prepare for hard times.

Theresa Willard, Monroe, couldn't afford to send her kids to the park. She cares about the birds, the fish, and the marine habitat.

Tanya Nourse, Monroe, they hear pinging from industrial park. There are dogs that bark in neighborhood that cause seizures in family members. Disabled people can't leave home when there are events.

Dino Magian, is with the Washington State Wakeboard League. A cable park is a creative way to increase revenue. Lake Sammamish has a lot of water fowl that remain, even with all the boating activities.

Eddie Roberts, Redmond, Drove from Ellensburg to hear about the issues. Tourism is a huge industry and many take place in ecological environment. Monroe is on the cutting edge of this industry, and this is a huge opportunity. Encourage council to move forward and answer questions.

Dave Demarest, thinks the cable park is a great idea; but is not sure it's right for Monroe. He was on the Planning Commission when parks plan was created. He cautioned Council to be careful in going on to next step;

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion was made by Councilperson Balk and seconded by Councilperson Stima, to approve the Consent Agenda. On vote,

Motion carried 7/0.

Items approved: 1A) October 11, 2011 Business Meeting Minutes; 2) Bills (Checks #80854 – 81047) in the amount of \$454,589.30; 3) Resolution Authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with City of Tacoma to Purchase Goods & Services.

The motion was made by Councilperson Cudaback and seconded by Councilperson Balk to move the Cable Park Proposal item forward on the agenda. On vote,

Motion carried 7/0.

Cable Park Proposal

Economic Development Manager Sax gave the history of the proposal and stated that he would entertain questions from Council.

After discussion, the motion was made by Councilperson Williams and seconded by Councilperson Kamp, to direct staff to negotiate a development agreement with H30.

After further discussion, Councilperson Stima called for the question. On vote,

Motion carried 5/2.

Councilpersons Balk and Cudaback were opposed.

NOTE: The audio recording was “paused” at 11:00 p.m., to allow the room to clear (3:16:22 on the CD). The recording was inadvertently left on pause until just before the executive session at 11:30 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance Setting Property Tax Levy/1st Reading

Finance Director Nelson explained that this was the first of two readings. The ordinance needs to be submitted to the County Assessor’s office by the end of November. It doesn’t include a 1% increase.

After discussion, the motion was made by Councilperson Balk and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback, to direct staff to return with an ordinance that allows Council to raise property taxes.

After discussion, the motion was on the floor to bring back an ordinance allowing the option to raise property taxes. On vote,

Motion carried 4/3.

Councilpersons Tuttle, Williams, and Goering were opposed.

The motion was made by Councilperson Kamp and seconded by Councilperson Williams, to approve as first reading an ordinance of the City of Monroe, Washington, fixing the amount of taxes to be levied by the City for the calendar year 2012. On vote,

After a question from Council, the motion was on the floor to approve ordinance as first reading. On vote,

Motion carried 7/0.

Presentation of Utility Funds and CIP Funds Budget

This item was moved to the November 15, 2011 Council meeting.

Review Recommendations for 2012 Lodging Tax Funding

Economic Development Manager Sax gave a brief overview explaining how they determined who should receive Lodging Tax funding.

After discussion, the motion was made by Councilperson Stima and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback, to approve the committee recommendations, and authorize the Mayor to sign contracts with the Lodging Tax fund recipients.

After discussion and comments, the motion was on the floor to approve the committee recommendations. On vote,

Motion carried 7/0.

FINAL ACTION

Adopt 2012 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Docket and Work Program

This item was moved to the November 15, 2011 Council meeting.

Approve Web Design

Public Works Director Feilberg explained that they have an example to vote on.

After discussion, the motion was made by Councilperson Stima and seconded by Councilperson Kamp, to approve the Web design shown by staff. On vote,

Motion carried 7/0.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORTS

Draft Agenda/November 15, 2011 Business Meeting

City Administrator Brazel presented the draft agenda for November 15, 2011.

Presentation of Utility Funds and CIP Funds Budget and the adoption of the 2012 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Docket and Work Program were added to the November 15, 2011 agenda.

Mayor Pro-Tem Goering stated there was a need for an executive session. City Attorney Lell explained that the executive session would be for approximately 10 minutes, and was for purposes of discussion litigation or potential litigation with legal counsel pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 1(i). Council may take action when they reconvene into regular session.

MEETING RECESSED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: 11:30 p.m.
EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS EXTENDED
MEETING RECONVENED INTO REGULAR SESSION: 11:55 p.m.

The motion was made by Councilperson Kamp and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback to authorize the Mayor to send a notice of termination to Redflex, based on continuing performance concerns.

There being no further business, the motion was made by Councilperson Cudaback and seconded by Councilperson Kamp, to adjourn the meeting. On vote,

Motion carried 7/0.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 11:56 p.m.


Kurt Goering, Mayor Pro-Tempore


Eadye Martinson, Deputy City Clerk